oregon voice magazine

the bugged issue

VOLUME 35

Issue 1

OREGON VOICE
Danielle
Estella
Kaitlyn
Bella
TAHOE MACK !!!

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Letter from the Editor

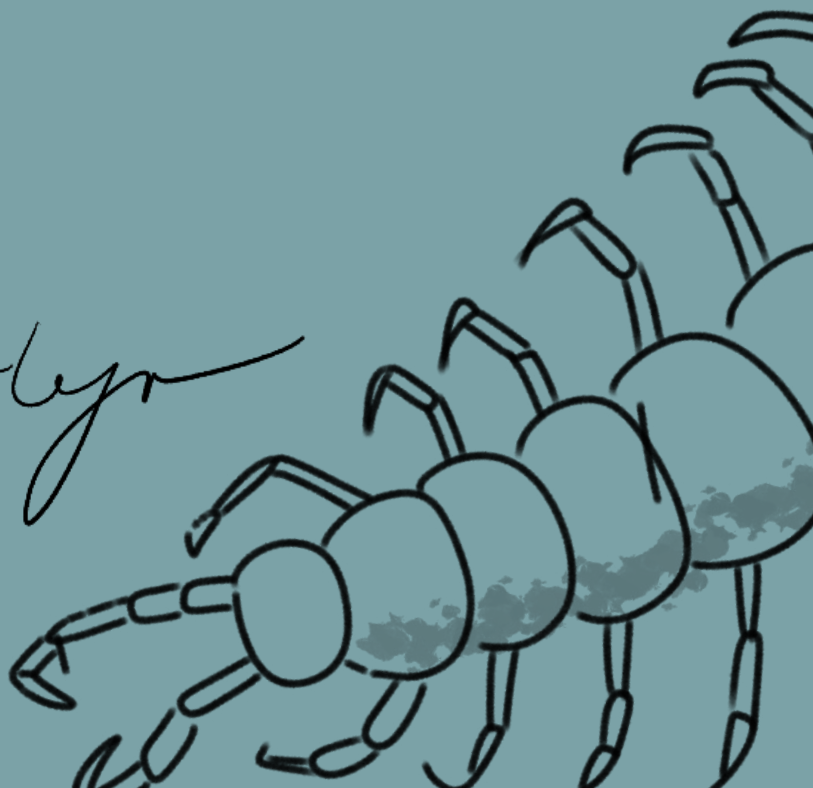
From bug lore, to bug facts, to being bugged, this issue has it all. The creation of the Bugged Issue made me realize that bugs are all around us—and that there has been a queen ant that lived to 28¾ years which makes her both older and wiser than myself.

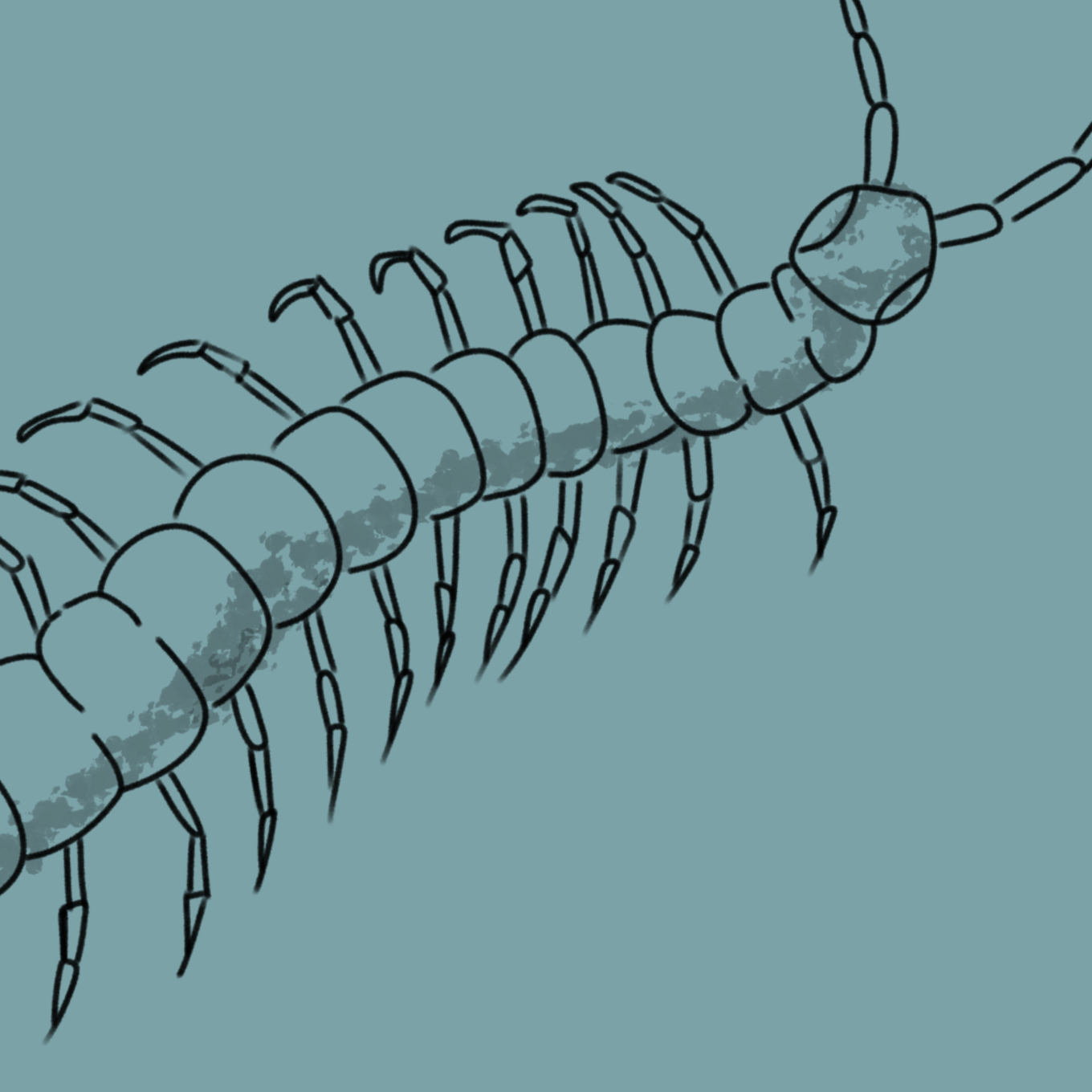
There will be things in here that you will recognize and some that may be unfamilar. Some things will scare you and some will bring you joy.

I hope we have acheived our goal or emmersing you within the bug world and you enjoy your time here.

Thanks for coming along,

Kaitlyn





The

egg

What bugs you?

What celebrity looks like a bug?

Slow drivers, too many bugs in one place MOLDY LAUNDRY!!!! frat boys in suits

Bug bites :(Disrespect and bug repellent Martina

Jared Letto (with the long hair) looks like a stick bug Anya Taylor Joy

Dwayne Johnson but in like a cool way. tom holland idgaf Michael Cera

Kris's gender paul rudd Simon Pegg Stanley Tucci

Never Enough

She has a love affair with the sun
And when it's gone she dies
And loves the moon instead
And cries and mourns in its arms
Until the next day comes
And she runs to the sun
To dance in its embrace instead
Until it burns her
And she longs for the cool of the moon

-Y.A.

Tahoe Mack

Things that bug me in my house:

Dishes have to be put away. Trash has to be taken out. Mysterious liquid is dripping from the fridge. I didn't make my bed this morning, or I made it, but it looks weird. I walk into my room and it smells like cats, but no one has a cat, other than the girl who lived in this room before me. She apparently never opened the windows, on a dead-set mission to keep all her cat air shut up in our shoebox of a room. Now it's seeped into the foundations of our house, and no tenant will ever escape it's lingering presence, no matter how much incense they burn. Clothes on the floor. All of my underwear is dirty. My roommate who lives in the basement's bathroom has an air vent that connects to mine, and every night when he gets off of work I have to listen to his political podcast with him while he takes a shower. There are cobwebs on our ceiling that no one seems to care to dust off with a broom. I certainly don't. But they do kind of bug me.

Bugs in my house:

Does it bug me? To have bugs in my house? Last spring, my college pad turned into a spider hotel. They checked in sometime over break, and when I returned from California, suddenly I was the unwelcomed guest.
"What's this freaky flesh monster doing in our shower?" a jumping spider asked a Daddy Long Legs.
"I don't know… maybe if we stare at her long enough she'll get uncomfortable and leave," the Daddy Long Legs said in reply.
It worked, and I left.
As a result of this, my roommates and I had to become very brave. A new topic graced the whiteboard in our kitchen: Spider Kill Count. I live in a house full of beautiful women with delicate hands. We were unaccustomed to hard manual labor like spider hunting. But in the face of danger, adjustments had to be made.

Smash

Eating people
Forking
Calico critters
Free bleeding
Eat leaf
Kill mate
Venom
Max’s
Boobs girl
Sniffin markers
Huffing paint
Hard drugs
Grandpa’s birthday

Smush

R

Eating vegetables
Spooning
Sonny Angels
NO period
Eat dirt
Mate 4 life
Poison
Rennie's
Butt guy
whiffin candles
Huffing glue
Soft drugs
Halloween

The

larva

Are worms bugs? If no, what are they?

Are blackwidows over sexualized?

Worms are bugs. they are creepy crawlies no no, skinny slugs

no they're closer to slugs and snails, whatever those are. No, worms are baby snakes.

they r little creatures for ur pocket yep, sure are No they are an entity

No. They're special. They don't have an exoskeleton, so they're…. Fluid Squish Creatures

Definitely. But in a good way. They're cool as fuck. undersexualized.

YES why aren't daddy long legs sexualized when their name is like that

Very much so Maybe if you're into that no ?

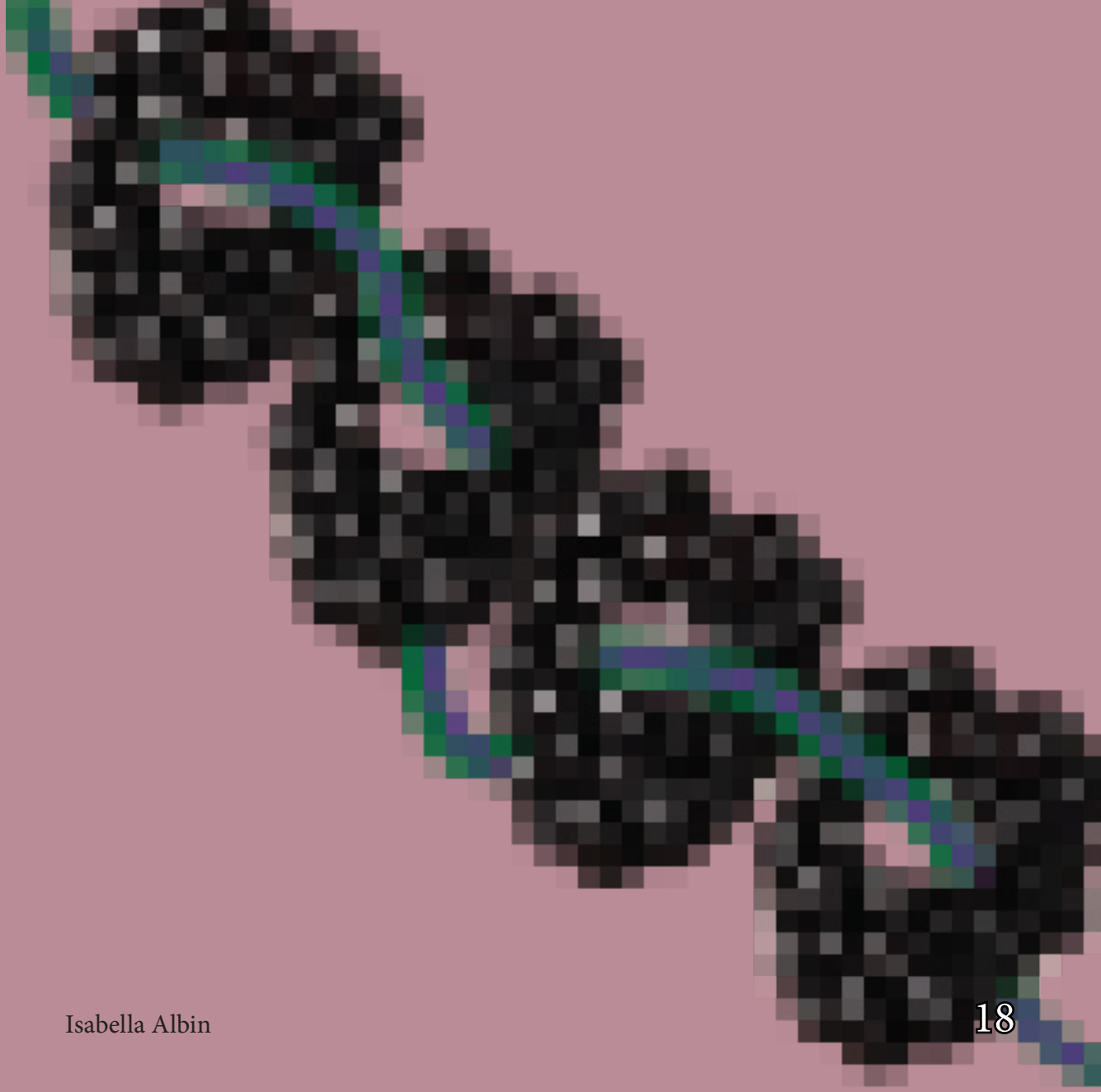
yeah they're mid irl. daddy long legs are wayyyyyy sexier

Since the release of Iggy Izalea's hit "Black Widow" ft. Rita Ora in 2014, the spider has gained notoriety as a particularly vicious and sultry lover. The tendency for the female of the species to consume their male counterparts after mating was highlighted in the song and juxtaposed with suggestive lyrics and ambience in the music video. While the anthropomorphic take on this natural phenomenon did appear to sexualize the species, I believe it is an appropriate amount given this dynamic.

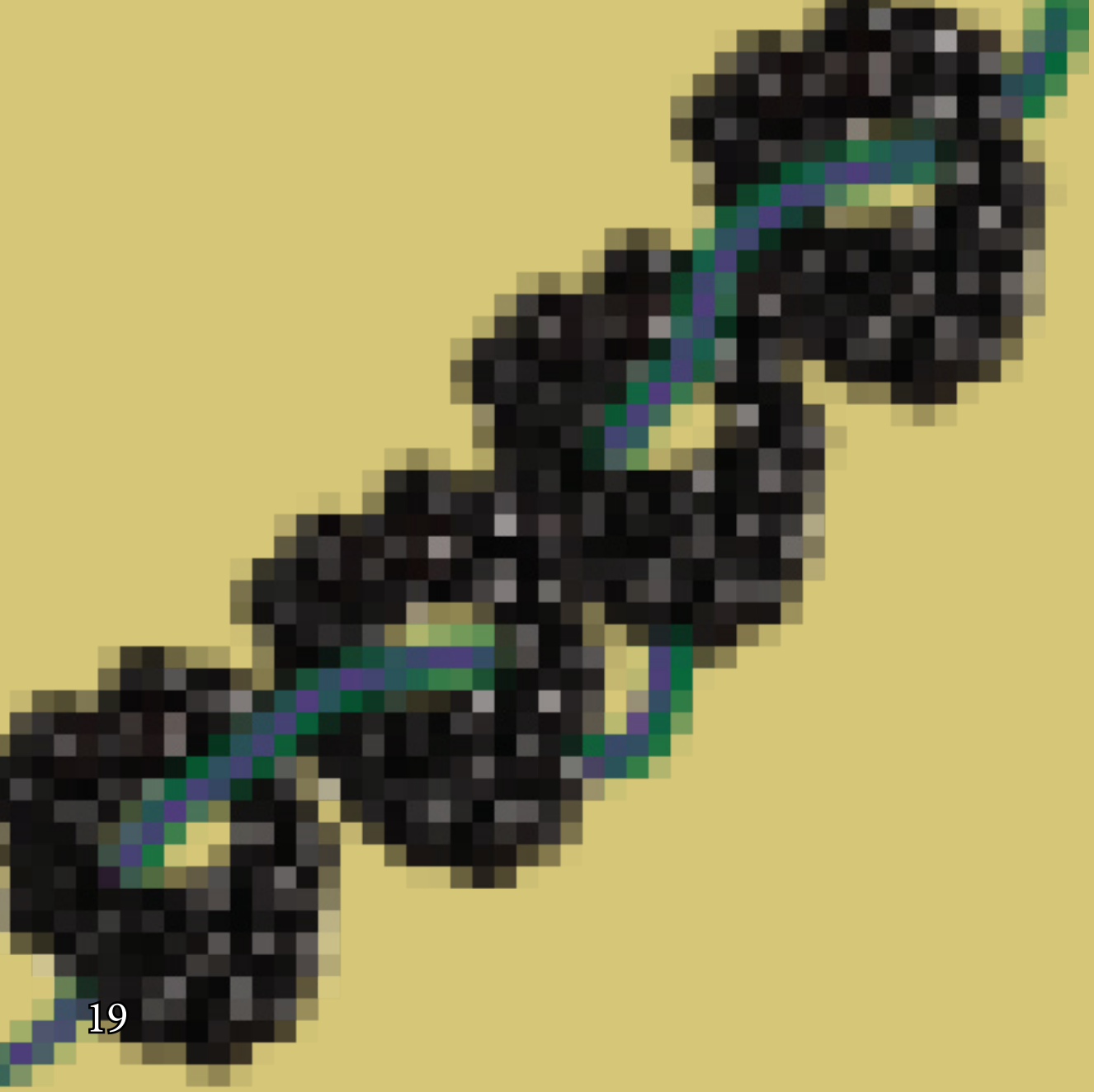
Self Religion

I want to live in a church
Make it my home
And worship my own existence
-the pure joy of life-
I want to romanticize survival
And kneel down in the face of my own reflection
Praise it for its beauty and sacrifice
Worship myself
And finally feel love.

-Y.A.



Isabella Albin



The roommates, on killing spiders:

Ruby: 21, Scorpio Sun, Human Phys Major “Catch and release is my favorite method, at least that’s what I’m supposed to say… haha… shoe.”
Sam: 21, Aries Sun, English Major “Shoe. Flat, hard, accurate. I’m too much of a baby to feel it crunch against my hand with a paper towel too.”
Grace: 20, Scorpio Sun, Education Major “I kill spiders with a shoe smack. Or if I can avoid it, I will,” she said. Then, her face lights up when she remembers her favorite method. “Oh! Vacuum!”
Sammy (me): 22, Virgo Sun, Journalism major. “My preferred method of killing a spider is either taking it outside with the paper/cup thing or washing it down the drain. A lot of my spider encounters happen in the shower, so I just splash water on them until they die and then float on down the drain”

Our first kill was communal. A particularly fierce jumping spider haunting the downstairs bathroom was smashed by Ruby with a Birkenstock. Grace and Sam corralled it into a killing range from the lofty house plant it was living in. I provided moral support and commentary.
So it went all spring, our kill counts climbing into the double digits. Eventually, the numbers plateaued and then remained stagnant into the fall.
I had a natural reckoning this summer and returned to Eugene with a new respect for animals and plants. They’re our equals, after all… what makes a human better than the lowly spider? Our obnoxiously large brains? Spiders are skillful and self-sufficient, two characteristics that can be appreciated by an earth sign like me.
“No more killing this fall,” I told myself. “A woman should live in harmony with her natural counterparts.” I smiled at the Daddy Longlegs in the high corner of the shower. Let him keep his post!
One morning I hopped in the shower without my contacts in and was greeted by an unpleasant sight. A large, spindly shape on my shampoo bottle. I shrieked, thrusting the Native Eucalyptus and Mint bottle under the hot stream of water. And there the Daddy Longlegs went… right down the drain.

Tahoe Mack

Phat Bug Facts

(all of these are completely real facts)

Bugs love to kiss on the mouth

The citrus long-horned beetle is native to Japan, China, Korea, Taiwan, and Southeast Asia where it is considered a serious pest.

Bullet ants are all boys

If you look at a cicada too close you might get really scared. But also maybe not.

I am holding a bug right now

Praying mantises possess stereo vision, and thanks to the placement of their eyes, they also have a wide field of vision. Each of their eyes has a fovea—a concentrated area of photo-receptor cells that lets them focus and track with acuity. And not only can mantises see in 3-D, but research has found their 3-D vision works differently from all previously known forms in nature. Aside from revealing more about mantises themselves, this could help scientists develop better vision in robots.

Some bugs can fly but we don't know which ones

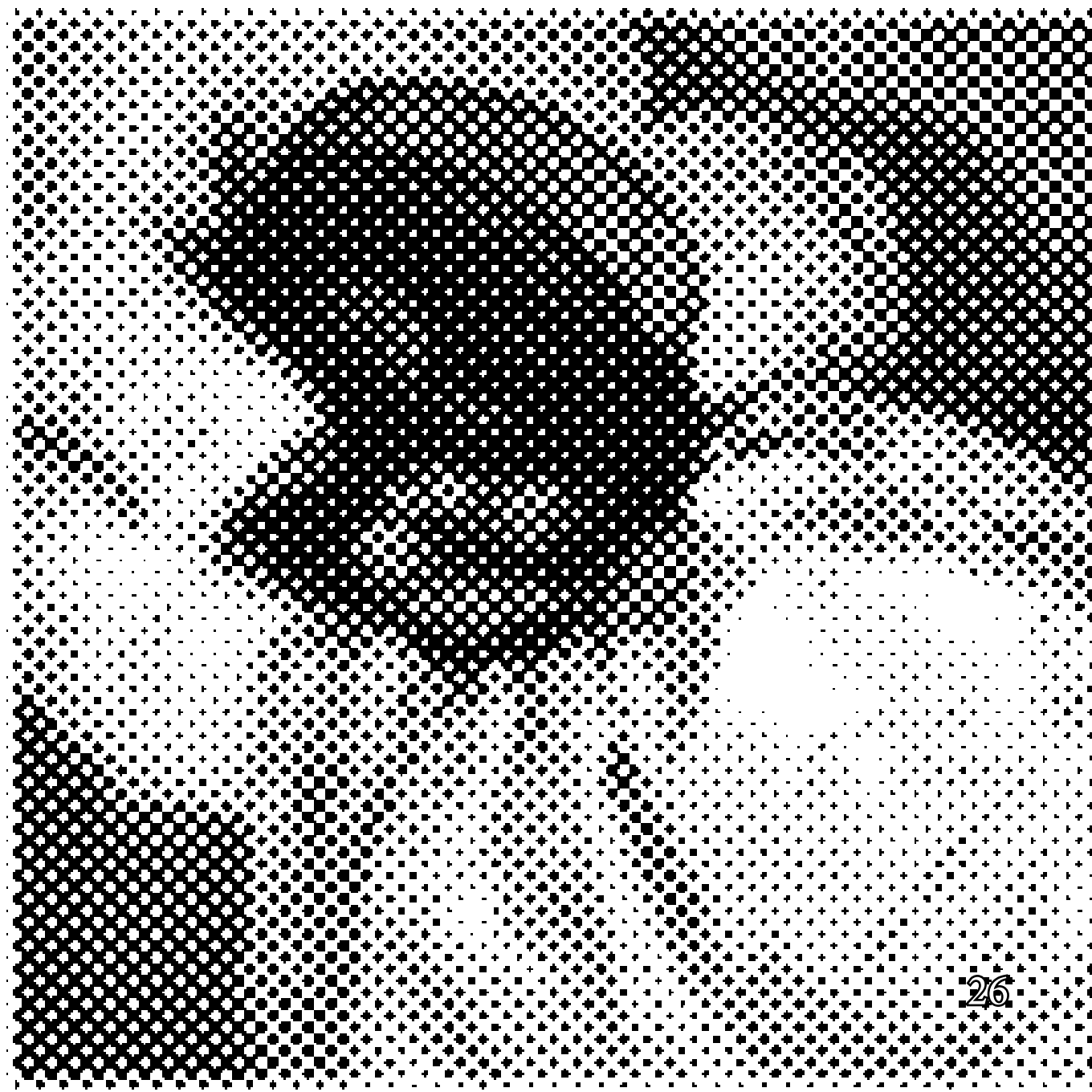
Bed bugs are called that cuz they look like if a bed was a bug

Mantises are the only insects capable of turning their heads from side to side.

bUg sEaRCh

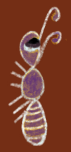
C	R	I	C	K	E	T	L	S	A	R	D	A	K
R	K	T	S	H	H	U	A	R	S	S	D	A	D
B	U	T	T	E	R	F	L	Y	Y	R	E	K	I
B	F	B	Y	L	F	L	E	S	M	A	D	C	H
G	R	A	S	S	H	O	P	P	E	R	T	G	P
A	F	R	Y	A	G	Y	S	G	G	D	L	N	A
L	Y	T	C	T	O	D	U	A	I	R	S	A	T
A	D	D	P	G	F	B	P	D	H	L	A	T	I
D	T	H	T	I	K	T	Y	E	A	D	D	A	I
Y	G	C	Y	N	G	T	A	K	I	T	A	T	G
B	E	U	I	E	A	R	W	I	G	C	C	L	G
U	T	T	I	K	I	A	N	C	D	I	I	N	R
G	S	E	I	L	Y	T	C	T	H	C	C	Y	Y
R	T	A	M	S	I	T	N	A	M	I	A	C	Y

CICADA
DAMSELFLY
GNAT
STINKBUG
BUTTERFLY
LADYBUG
CRICKET
KATYDID
GRASSHOPPER
APHID
MANTIS
EARWIG



The

pupa



Have you read the metamorphosis?
Give us an alternate ending…

I have read the metamorphosis and the ending was so sad. I think the guy has a classic movie moment and sits with his family and just goes “I am a bug” like in radio rebel when Debby Ryan has her “I am radio rebel” moment. Then everyone goes “I am a bug” in a way to protest giving this guy a normal life. Then eventually everyone in his life just learn to support him unconditionally. He goes on to being the most famous bug in the world, today show, academy award winner, married to Taylor Swift. Then it all ends with him telling his story of how he got where he is today.

At the end his family uses their last money to buy him a maid to tend to him because they can’t even think about her but she turns out to be super quirky and really into bugs. They get to talking and it turns out they have a lot in common. They talk about escaping to the sewers together and only coming up to eat peoples food scraps.They make love. It’s transformative for his cockroach self. He has a crazy cockroach orgasm. Much to his shock & chagrin, she bites his head off when she finishes. Plot twist: She was a grasshopper the whole time.

In my alternative ending, the Sansas drop of Gregor in the woods and he lives out his days happily as a very large bug.
yes,,,,,,, gregor samsa farts so loud that everyone dies

To be Small

Writing is not the expansion of thought
But rather the permanence of it
It is the creation and legacy of idea
The birth and afterlife of belief
The act of putting thoughts into words
Pen into paper
Ensures the immortality of our souls
A last ditch effort of living beyond our own means
Existing beyond our capacity
Humanity's last desperate attempt at eluding death
And evading inevitable mortality
But yet it feels as though we undoubtedly get erased regardless of the effort
And the universe reminds us of our impermanence
Our insignificance
So it seems, that you and I,
We are nothing.
How blind to believe that we were anything but
How comforting to realize that we have no reason to be anything more.

-Y.A.

If I Were A Butterfly
When bugs splatter on my windshield
They hit with a quiet ferocity.
Loud enough for me to hear and see
But never enough to pull over.

I feel nothing at the sight of a mosquito or bee
Spread out all over the glass.
They'll never fly the way butterflies do,
Gracing the air with light flutters,
Bright colors.
Their beauty is simple and always understood.

The insides of the insects pour out
And all I can do is watch,

Thinking maybe you'd hear me if I were dying too.
My deafening cries for help do not go unheard.
Rather, they buzz faintly in your ears,
Present but never acknowledged.

My being is splayed everywhere in a tragic accident.
Lips parted and my words fell out before I could catch them between the teeth.
Your eyes stay glued to the road ahead of you.

I'm not sure of when you pretended to go deaf
And mute when it comes to me.
I know I'll never fly the way butterflies do.

Sophia Truitt

SALTY THY

Bugs in my house:

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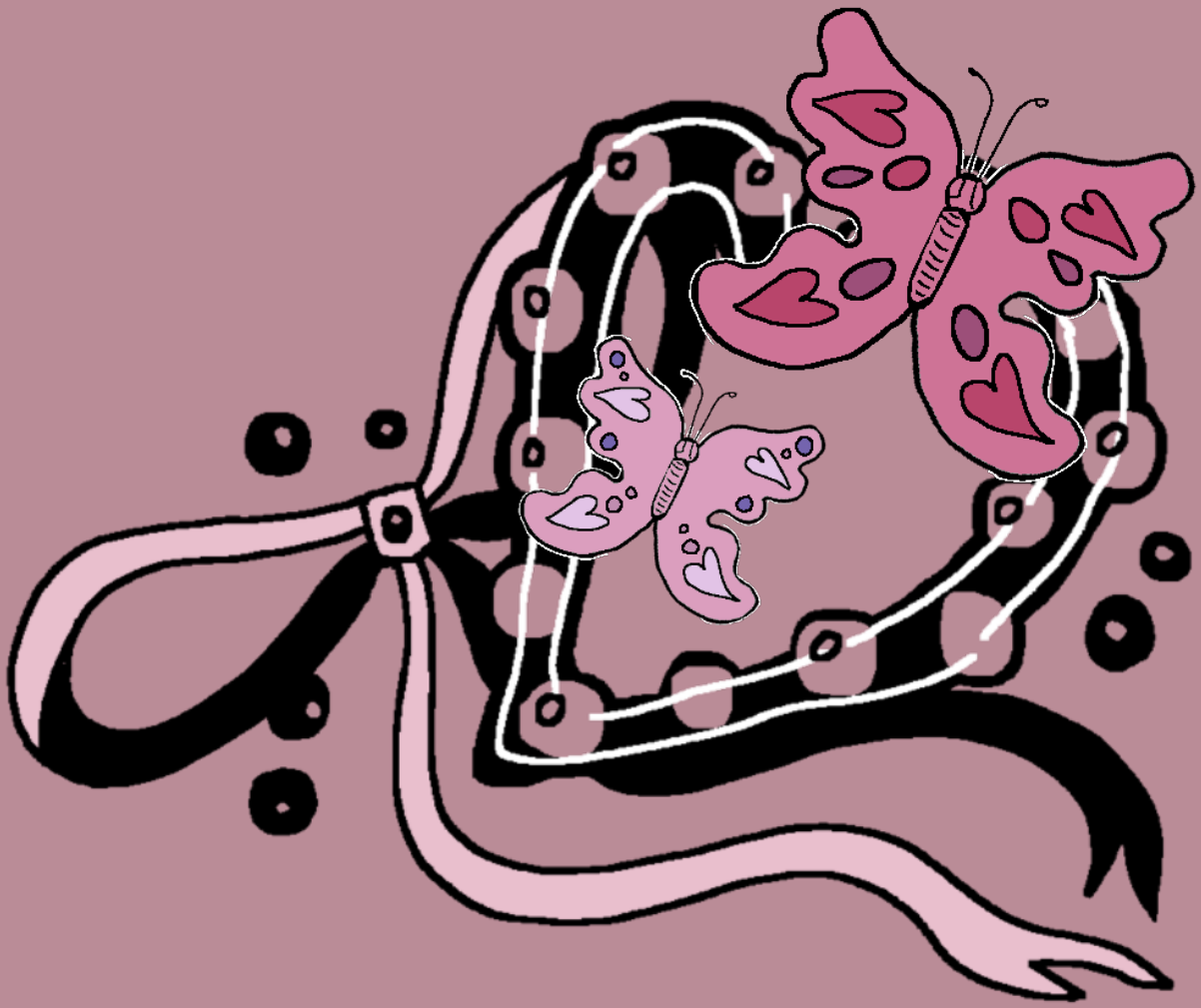


Kaitlyn Cafarelli

Reliquary

Sister finds a feather on the front porch
Left behind from neighbor's black cat
Its base fluted,
Hairs a sticky midnight
No small warm body accompanying it.

She discovers it in the afternoon's slick hush of rain, carried over
From the creature's pocket of mouth
Shining unlike the world
around it bloated with water.

Lately days are rife with omens,
Like the feather,
A dragonfly shuddering into her life from the minivan's open window
Into her habit,
Then lap
Tethered between her thighs
Collapsing as lungs do,
Inward.

The sweet rush,
Its skin greasy
Gossamer form still with suddenness
What to do with this green thing in her skirt,
Where to put the feather
The lack of body.

Mateo Reynaud

Respectrum

women in anything
grimes eating hotdogs as a vegan
wendy williams compilation
Bringing spider outside
tits out around your house
psychedelic honey bees
youtube coming out videos
frogs with poison that you can take
Intricate mating rituals
hank and john greeen
chat gpt to code
professor who

swears

FRENEMIES

the crime of being small

fruit flies

road rage

Squash sider

youtube apology videos

girl you like has an ugly boyfriend

ugly boyfriend

The

adult

You woke up and you are in the Bug's Life movie. What happens?

I hide the whole time and wait for the watermelon to come.

i griddy Dirt Chill w that caterpillar I get lost in the grass.

I'd rather wake up in ant bully and eat the yummy green ant poop orbs.

I honestly think I'd be kinda sad. I love a Bugs Life but I don't know if I'd wanna be in it tbh :/

AHHHH AHHHH PESTICIDES!!! AHHHH THE CRIME OF BEING SMALL!!!! NO DON'T PUT ME IN A JAR!!!!

hmm m i probably eat some dirt and crawl around

I would cry of happiness. And then get eaten, cuz I would I am wouldn't know wtf to do with myself

Rebirth

Im growing
And yet I feel as though I'm dying all the same
I lie in my own hands
Feeling them crush who I am
So that I may metamorphosize into something better
And it seems
That for me to truly grow,
I must kill myself first

-Y.A.

Are You an Anti-Capitalist Ant?

What happens when animation of the 90s tackles Marxism for kids all while in a race to make the most epic movie about bugs? You get the film Antz, obviously. This film was released in 1998 in direct competition with Pixar's Bug's Life. As Dreamwork's second feature length animated film, Antz definitely is unforgettable. While the Bug's Life may be more visually appealing with the irredentist slim- thick ant build, Antz is of greater substance.

The substance you ask? Whole premise of Antz is centered on class struggle. Z, a Cillian Murphy looking ant, was indiscriminately assigned to be a worker at birth. Get this. The alternative to a worker ant is a macho militaristic ant. (the bourgeois obviously) Z who is voiced by Woody Allen, a horrifying casting decision on any level, but especially so for a children's movie; is unsatisfied with digging tunnels for the colony as his job. Keep this in mind as it is a key component in the major plot twist.

Z laments to his therapist and friends. Z describes his fellow workers by saying they are, "mindless zombies capitulating to an oppressive system." Real. Over an aphid beer, Z continues to question his existence. Amidst his deconstruction of labor and self worth and relationship status, we get a fantastic one liner. "Call me crazy but, I have a thing about drinking from the anus of another creature. Ok?" Classic.

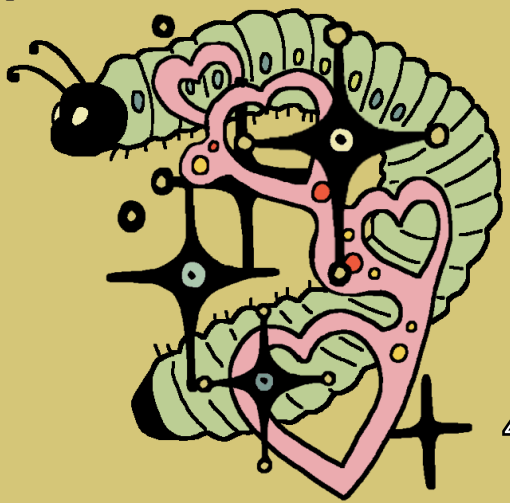
Through a series of events, questionable jokes and one particularly traumatizing battle scene; Z falls in love with Princess Bala and uncovers a plot to drown all the worker ants. The villainous General Mandible masterminded a particularly sadistic way to force the worker ants to essentially dig their own grave. The general plans to flood the tunnels that the worker ants are digging day in and out. The general's ultimate plan is to create a colony that benefited from the worker ants without having them in the new colony. This is one of the most direct examples of class warfare and exploitation of the proletariat in Antz.

Of course, Z prevails. He saves the worker ants and the princess falls in love with him. The movie went as far as they could in terms of a capitalist critique. The better future without menial labor, isn't defined. Having an ant colony be a parable for marxist thinking might not be what Karl envisioned. Without a discernible future, what happens?

At the end of the day, Antz is a better movie than A Bug's Life. It's a little freaky, therefore a little more interesting.

So.... Are you an ant and maybe even an anti-capitalist?

Sincerely,
Isabella Albin

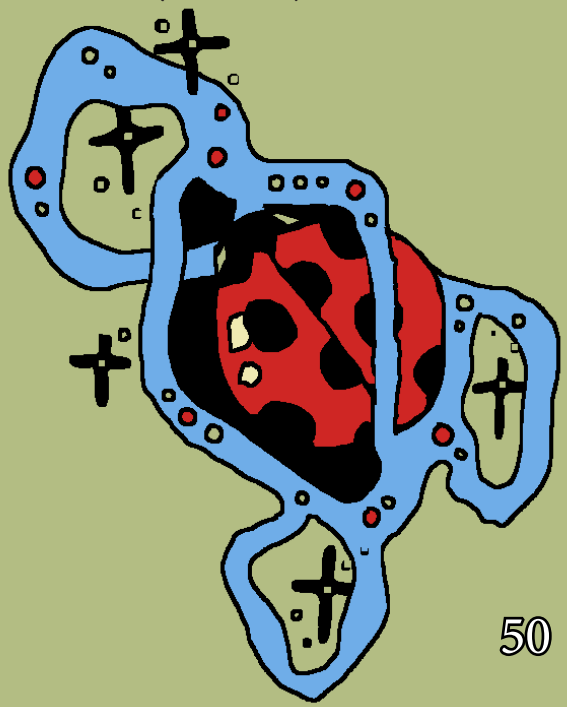


A Film Like No Other Except for the Other Bug Movie From the Same Year: A Bug's Life

Many American audiences are familiar with the Oscar-Nominated 1998 Pixar film A Bug's Life, a shockingly unfunny family film about interspecies relations and exploitation. What many are not aware of, however, is its producers' personal and legal feud with Dreamworks, the production company behind the hit film Ants. But that's not really my business. Essentially this film is centered around an ant colony living on a hill called "Ant Island." It is as poorly named as everything else in the film. The ants on this island are in a quasi-feudal system in which their kingdom acts as serfs, providing food to a group of thuggish grasshoppers to ensure their protection. The protagonist, an inventor ant with the unfortunate name "Flik," convinces the colony to enlist the help of other bugs to overthrow their grasshopper junta. Of course, the colony agrees because he has fucked up so badly that they need him to leave the colony but they don't want to hurt his feelings. On his own, Flik comes across a group of washed up circus performers and, too sheltered to understand the concept of unemployment, believes them to be warriors. Eventually, they are found out by the ant colony but ultimately, and absurdly, end up saving the day, killing the lead grasshopper, and going on tour for their stupid circus act. And, as always, Flik and the newly crowned queen ant get together, showing the world that feudalism may end, but monarchies die hard.

While it may be news to you that this film was nominated for an oscar, it should come as no surprise that it was nominated not for its narrative, but for its score. This is because A Bug's Life is a cheap imitation of Animal Farm and an even cheaper imitation of Ants, a film with a more robust plot despite its concept being unapologetically and indiscreetly stolen from Pixar. But that's not my business. A Bug's Life is, without a doubt, the worst film I've seen in the last 6 months. The characters are one-note and superficial, and their development is entirely contrived - when there is any character development at all. The plot itself is so far from reality that my disbelief was not just unsuspended, it was actively burrowing underground. What an incredibly sorry, nuance-lacking excuse for a Marxist allegory. The animation is in the classically unimaginative Disney Pixar style, showcasing that capitalism does not, in fact, breed innovation. In the end, despite its star-studded cast consisting of Kevin Spacey and other irrelevant celebrities, I found this movie to be an astoundingly boring shell of a film that even Julia Louis Dreyfus and a joint could not fix.

Signing off,
Danielle Richard



Tahoe Mack